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Clerk

District Court

JAN 20 2024

for the Northern Mariana Islands
By af
(Deputy Clerk)

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

U.S.A. FANTER CORPORATION, LTD.,)
Plaintiff,)
v.)
IMPERIAL PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL)
(CNMI), LLC,)
Defendant.)

Case No. 1:20-cv-00003
**MEMORANDUM DECISION AND
ORDER ADOPTING DISTRIBUTION
PLAN AND SETTING PROCEDURES
FOR FUTURE DISBURSEMENTS**

On October 26, 2021, this Court created a limited receivership in equity that appointed Clear Management as the Limited Receiver to auction off the casino gaming machines of Defendant Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC (“IPI”) that had an estimated value of \$2,250,000 as of August 17, 2020, in order to satisfy the judgment against IPI. (“Receivership Order,” ECF No. 166.) The Court permitted other judgment creditors of IPI to move to participate in the limited receivership, and numerous IPI creditors, including those with and without final judgments against IPI, filed notices to participate in the limited receivership. (Mem. Decision 3, ECF No. 305.) On October 5, 2022, IPI moved to stay the limited receivership because some of the initial judgment creditors had been satisfied. (Stip. Mot., ECF No. 298.) However, the Court denied the motion because numerous judgment creditors of IPI still remained unsatisfied. (Mem. Decision 1.)

At the January 18, 2024, hearing on federal Judgment Creditor Joshua Gray’s Petition for an Order to Show Cause (ECF No. 401) for the approval of the proposed distribution of the approximately \$1.5 million in auction proceeds as stipulated to between all known judgment creditors of IPI, the

Court determined that there was fair notice to all interested parties of the IPI Judgment Creditors’ (“Judgment Creditors”) Stipulation Concerning the Distribution Plan (“Distribution Plan”) (ECF No. 401-1). The only judgment creditor against IPI that did not approve the Distribution Plan was Alfredo Cabael d/b/a Fritz Pacific Project Development Services (a sole proprietor), a pro se plaintiff in Civil Action No. 1:20-cv-00035 who was not known by any of the other Judgment Creditors or the Receiver prior to the hearing. Based on the matters adduced at the hearing about the status of Cabael’s remaining \$80,000 judgment balance, his late appearance in the Receivership, and the equity of providing some payment to the other Judgment Creditors, most of which have not previously received any payments from IPI, the Court denied Cabael’s request to be included in the current Distribution Plan. Furthermore, the Court overruled the objections made by non-judgment creditors Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP and the Genc plaintiffs in Civil Action Nos. 1:20-cv-00003 and 1:22-cv-00002 for the reasons stated on the record. (ECF Nos. 403-05.) The Court thereafter adopted, with additional terms stated herein, the Distribution Plan and approved the proposed distribution of \$1,460,000 in net auction proceeds submitted by the Receiver in his Notice of Proposed Distribution of IPI Gaming Equipment Auction Proceeds. (ECF No. 416; Mins., ECF No. 418.)

Below the Court sets forth the adopted procedures of the Distribution Plan:

Step 1: List of Judgment Creditors. Step 1 of the Distribution Plan is to identify all parties who held a final judgment against IPI as of December 1, 2023, and list the amount of the judgment balance, exclusive of any post-judgment interest (together, the “Judgment Creditors”). Those creditors who do not yet have a final judgment against IPI are excluded. The CNMI’s tax lien shall be treated the same as a final judgment for the purpose of the Distribution Plan. *See 4 CMC § 1865.* The result of Step 1 as of the issuance of this Memorandum Decision and Order is the following spreadsheet of known List of IPI Judgment Creditors and the amount of their judgment balances (“Distribution List”):

1
2 **LIST OF IPI JUDGMENT CREDITORS**
3

2 Case Name	3 Case Number	4 Order Date	5 ECF/Filing ID	6 Attorney	7 Amount*
Federal Court Judgments					
Winzy Corporation	20-cv-00028	5/18/21	ECF 23	Scoggins	\$179,217.50
USA Fanter Corp. Ltd.	21-cv-00035	11/30/22	ECF 34	Thompson	\$226,127.05
Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd.	21-cv-00034	12/2/22	ECF 46	Seman	\$697,801.30
Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd.	23-cv-0011	11/29/23	ECF 12	Seman	\$209,808.22
Art Man Corporation	21-cv-00038	1/17/23	ECF 30	Thompson	\$106,890.00
USA Fanter Corp. Ltd.	20-cv-00005	3/20/23	ECF 76	Thompson	\$500,000.00
Joshua Gray	19-cv-00008	5/31/23	ECF 226	Halegua	\$5,686,182.20
James Whang dba South Pacific Lumber Company	21-cv-00027	8/29/23	ECF 54	Thompson	\$795,236.88
Tang's Corp.	20-cv-0006	9/20/23	ECF 133	Scoggins	\$191,070.56
CNMI Court Judgments					
G4S	20-0166-cv	1/26/21	66283200	White	\$11,711.23
RC	20-0356-cv	2/16/21	66341227	Scoggins	\$69,722.25
Yu's, LLC	20-0177-cv	7/28/21	66803128	Scoggins	\$38,512.00
Atkins Kroll	20-0213-cv	9/21/21	66949154	White	\$78,403.34
Art Man Environmental Corp	21-0078-cv	12/28/21	67196030	Scoggins	\$83,555.78
Michael Dotts	21-0277-cv	12/28/21	67195471	Dotts	\$396,625.62
Ecolab (Guam)	21-0130-cv	2/2/22	67283195	White	\$17,629.84
GT Building Systems International, Ptd., Ltd.	20-0214-cv	3/9/22	67377667 67730610	Thompson	\$761,658.80
Hemine Ipwan Island dba IPWAN Security Services	21-0179-cv	12/13/22	68586446	Thompson	\$188,125.30
Fujitec Pacific Inc.	22-0171-cv	1/5/23 1/26/23 4/14/23	68799828 68995567 69820829	Thompson	\$2,679,255.45
Yantze Corp.	21-0014-cv	6/6/23	70144152	Scoggins	\$248,000.00
Tax Lien					
CNMI Tax Lien	n/a	n/a	n/a	Rollins	\$7,943,035.39**

*Post-judgment interest has been excluded from these amounts.

**This is the outstanding amount of the CNMI's tax lien against IPI as of December 1, 2023.

1 (See App. A, ECF No. 401-1). A party that is not on the list will not receive a payment from the initial
2 distribution of Auction Proceeds. Any party that satisfies the criteria herein and seeks to be added to
3 the list must file with the Court a petition with the information called for in Exhibit A attached to this
4 Memorandum Decision and Order.

5 **Step 2: Initial Distribution.** Step 2 of the Distribution Plan is that each Judgment Creditor
6 who obtained a final judgment in the 2021 calendar year or prior shall receive an initial distribution
7 of \$20,000.00 (or the total amount of the judgment, if lower); each Judgment Creditor who obtained
8 a final judgment in the 2022 calendar year or later shall receive an initial distribution of \$15,000.00
9 (or the total amount of the judgment, if lower) (the “Initial Distribution”). This method is deemed to
10 be far easier to administer than trying to calculate the appropriate post-judgment interest for every
11 Judgment Creditor, but still recognizes that some Judgment Creditors have held final judgments for
12 longer than other Judgment Creditors. In the event that a judgment creditor has multiple judgments
13 against IPI, such as USA Fanter, Fujitec Pacific Inc., or Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd., the judgment creditor
14 will only receive a single initial distribution with the amount determined by its oldest judgment.

15 **Step 3: Pro-Rata Share.** Step 3 is to calculate each Judgment Creditor’s pro-rata share of the
16 Auction Proceeds that remain. The initial distribution received by each Judgment Creditor is
17 subtracted from their judgment amount to determine their “Remaining Judgment Amount.” These
18 values are then totaled and each Judgment Creditor’s “Pro Rata Share” of that total is then determined.
19 The Pro-Rata Share was calculated by the Receiver in its proposed distribution of auction proceeds
20 and is adopted herein as shown in Step 5 below.

21 **Step 4: Pro-Rata Distribution.** Step 4 is to calculate the distribution to each Judgment
22 Creditor of the remaining available funds. Therefore, the total amount of the Initial Distributions is
23 subtracted from the Auction Proceeds to determine the “Remaining Funds.” The Pro Rata Share of
each Judgment Creditor is then multiplied by the Remaining Funds to determine their “Pro Rata

1 Distribution of Remaining Funds.” The Pro-Rata Distribution was calculated by the Receiver in its
 2 proposed distribution of auction proceeds and is adopted herein as shown in Step 5 below.

3 **Step 5: Total Distribution.** Step 5 is to calculate the “Total Distribution” to each Judgment
 4 Creditor by adding the amount of their Initial Distribution together with their Pro Rata Distribution of
 5 Remaining Funds. The Court approved the Receiver’s proposed distribution as shown in Exhibit A to
 6 the Receiver’s Notice. (ECF No. 416.) Accordingly, the total distribution of \$1,460,000 of the net
 7 auction proceeds is to be distributed to each Judgment Creditor as follows:

8 **Distribution of \$1,460,000.00**

9 Case Name	10 Case Number	11 Amount (no post-judgment interest)	12 Initial Distribution (pre/post-2022)	13 Initial Distribution	14 Judgment Amount	15 Pro Rata Share (of Remaining Judgment Amounts)	16 Pro Rata Distribution of Remaining Funds	17 Total Distribution
Federal District Court								
Winzy Corporation	20-cv-00028	\$179,217.50	\$15,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$159,217.50	0.76577%	\$8,754.95	\$28,754.95
USA Fanter Corp. Ltd.	21-cv-00035	\$226,127.05	\$20,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$211,127.05	1.01543%	\$11,609.31	\$26,609.31
Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd.	21-cv-00034	\$697,801.30		\$15,000.00	\$682,801.30	3.28398%	\$37,545.42	\$52,545.42
Kan Pacific Saipan Ltd.	23-cv-0011	\$209,808.22		\$0.00	\$209,808.22	1.00909%	\$11,536.79	\$11,536.79
Art Man Corporation	21-cv-00038	\$106,890.00		\$15,000.00	\$91,890.00	0.44195%	\$5,052.79	\$20,052.79
USA Fanter Corp. Ltd.	20-cv-00005	\$500,000.00		\$0.00	\$500,000.00	2.40479%	\$27,493.67	\$27,493.67
Joshua Gray	19-cv-00008	\$5,686,182.20		\$15,000.00	\$5,671,182.20	27.27598%	\$311,843.18	\$326,843.18
James Whang dba South Pacific Lumber Company	21-cv-00027	\$795,236.88		\$15,000.00	\$780,236.88	3.75261%	\$42,903.14	\$57,903.14
Tang's Corp.	20-cv-0006	\$191,070.56		\$15,000.00	\$176,070.56	0.84682%	\$9,681.65	\$24,681.65
CNMI Superior Court								
G4S	20-0166-cv	\$11,711.23		\$11,711.23	\$0.00	0.00000%	\$0.00	\$11,711.23
RC	20-0356-cv	\$69,722.25		\$20,000.00	\$49,722.25	0.23914%	\$2,734.09	\$22,734.09
Yu's, LLC	20-0177-cv	\$38,512.00		\$20,000.00	\$18,512.00	0.08903%	\$1,017.93	\$21,017.93
Atkins Kroll	20-0213-cv	\$78,403.34		\$20,000.00	\$58,403.34	0.28090%	\$3,211.44	\$23,211.44
Art Man Environmental Corp	21-0078-cv	\$83,555.78		\$20,000.00	\$63,555.78	0.30568%	\$3,494.76	\$23,494.76
Dotts	21-0277-cv	\$396,625.62		\$20,000.00	\$376,625.62	1.81141%	\$20,709.64	\$40,709.64
Ecolab (Guam)	21-0130-cv	\$17,629.84		\$15,000.00	\$2,629.84	0.01265%	\$144.61	\$15,144.61
GT Building Systems International, Ptd., Ltd.	20-0214-cv	\$761,658.80		\$15,000.00	\$746,658.80	3.59111%	\$41,056.78	\$56,056.78
Hemine Ipwan Island dba IPWAN Security Services	21-0179-cv	\$188,125.30		\$15,000.00	\$173,125.30	0.83266%	\$9,519.70	\$24,519.70
Fujitec Pacific Inc.	22-0171-cv	\$2,679,255.45		\$15,000.00	\$2,664,255.45	12.81394%	\$146,500.30	\$161,500.30
Yantze Corp.	21-0014-cv	\$248,000.00		\$15,000.00	\$233,000.00	1.12063%	\$12,812.05	\$27,812.05
Tax Lien								
CNMI Tax Lien		\$7,943,035.39		\$20,000.00	\$7,923,035.39	38.10643%	\$435,666.58	\$455,666.58
Totals:		\$21,108,568.71		\$316,711.23	\$20,791,857.48		\$1,143,288.77	\$1,460,000.00

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 22
 23
 Total Funds for Dist.: \$1,460,000.00
 Funds after Initial Dist.: \$1,143,288.77

1 **Step 6: Disbursement.** The Receiver shall make payment of the proper distribution amount
2 to each Judgment Creditor within ten business days of the Court's final order. The Judgment Creditors
3 shall comply with all reasonable requests by the Receiver to timely provide payment information.

4 **Step 7: Future Distributions.** If subsequent auctions result and additional proceeds become
5 available for disbursement, the Receiver shall file a notice exhibiting the fund's proposed distribution.
6 For any future disbursements from the Receiver, the proposed distribution shall use the pro-rata share
7 for each Judgment Creditor in this Distribution Plan, *or a revised pro-rata share to include any*
8 *subsequently added Judgment Creditor by Court order.* If a party believes that it was improperly
9 omitted from this initial Distribution List, it may file the form set forth in Exhibit A of this
10 Memorandum Decision and Order and provide evidence of its judgment and additional evidence to
11 support the balance remaining in order to qualify for future disbursements. Any other Judgment
12 Creditor with a judgment against IPI as of December 1, 2023, may submit the form in Exhibit A to
13 object to future disbursements. All parties shall have ten days to object to the Receiver's notice. If
14 there are no meritorious objections filed within the time period, the Court may approve the distribution
15 without a hearing. No Judgment Creditor shall receive any distribution beyond the total amount of
16 their judgment indicated in the Distribution List. In the event that a Judgment Creditor receives other
17 funds (outside of this process) to satisfy or partially satisfy their judgment, the Judgment Creditor
18 must file a notice with the Court within seven calendar days so that the Judgment Creditor is not
19 distributed funds through this process in excess of their judgment amount set forth in the Distribution
20 List.

21 IT IS SO ORDERED on this 20th day of January 2024.

22 
23 RAMONA V. MANGLONA
Chief Judge